

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 345
By Cochran

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Staff Sergeant Louis J. Holm for meritorious service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States Army Reserves; and

WHEREAS, one such Tennessean is Staff Sergeant Louis J. Holm of Elizabethton, who has served with courage and gallantry and deserves proper recognition for heroism both in the Army Reserves and in society today; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Holm was recently awarded the Army Achievement Medal for leadership, initiative, and technical competence crucial to the success of the Emergency Operations Center Field Force Engineering training; and

WHEREAS, as accentuated by the tragic events and cowardly acts of terror inflicted upon this great nation on September 11, 2001, we live in an era in which the fabric of international diplomacy is complex and densely interwoven; the terrain is treacherous, and our

nation must act judiciously and with earnest resolve in order to protect the American way of life and the institution of democracy, and to make the world safe for the advancement of personal and political freedom for the expanse of the diverse human family; and

WHEREAS, in recent months, our Armed Forces have nobly shouldered the responsibility of ridding the international community of the scourge that is terrorism, beginning with Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, and continuing to this day in Operation Iraqi Freedom, as they actively maintain a vigilant presence throughout the world, guarding against those who would seek to destroy our way of life and demolish our hard-earned freedoms; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Holm has been on active duty with the U.S. Army Reserves for Operation Enduring Freedom; stationed in Germany, he serves with great bravery and ability with the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, he performs his duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism as a Special Forces Soldier, Combat Engineer, and Battle Staff NonCommissioned Officer specializing in demolition; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Holm is currently a training NCO for the Emergency Operations Center, Europe district, teaching tele-engineering and Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare Protection; and

WHEREAS, he will complete his two-year tour of duty later this year, and his service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Staff Sergeant Louis J. Holm from Elizabethton for meritorious service in the United States Army Reserves and offer our thanks for his hard work in the name of our freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.